about Rs. 20,000. The affected transmitter has since been repaired and services restored.

Checking of Film Piracy

1913. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the film industry is facing a major threat from piracy; and

(b) if so, the action taken to check film piracy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The film industry has from time to time been representing against the losses suffered due to video/cable piracy. The responsibility for enforcing the Copyright Act 1957 rests with the police authorities under the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Copyright Act has been amended to bring it in consonance with the development in the modern technology and making the penal provisions more stringent. During the last few years the Central Government has taken various steps to improve the enforcement of the Act. These measures include setting up of a Copyright Advisory Council for reviewing the progress of the enforcement of the Act periodically and to advise the Govt. regarding measures for improving the enforcement of the Act, arranging training/seminars for die police officers and impressing upon the State Govt. to creat special cells to deal with copyright offences; to' designate nodal points with the which professional or industry associations could liaise. Most of the State Government have set up special cells.

The Copyright (Amendment) Act, 1994 inter alia provides for, setting up of a separate Society for Copyright Regulation of Indian Producers of films and Television (SCRIPT). This society has set up special wings to fight piracy and wolk in close interaction with the police.

Plight of dependents affected by Terrorist Activities

1914. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has assessed the plight of widows and children whose husband and parents are killed in terrorist activities in different States;

(b) if so, the figures thereof for last three years, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government would constitute a Board in each State and at the Centre consisting of people's representatives to monitor those activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the Ministry of Home Affairs and Department of women and Child Development, who are concerned with the subject and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Exchange of Wakf Land

1915. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the case of exchange of Wakf land with Punjab Agricultural University, Patiala and allotment to Shri Nohar Chand Gupta and Varindra Agro is full of frauds in collusion with some employees;

(b) whether the allotment/agreement is in complete violation of the Wakf Act, 1995, and a virtual sell-out;

(c) if so, whether Government would order an independent inquiry in the whole episode and bring the culprits to book;

(d) the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) There is no Punjab Agricultural University at Patiala. Exchange of Wakf land with Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana has already been notified Matters relating to allotment of the land to Shri Nohan Chand Gupta and Varindra Agro is being inquired into by a retired High Court Judge.

(e) Does not arise.

Welfare Schemes for Weaker Sections in Assam

1916. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the welfare schemes being formulated and implemented by Government for weaker sections of the society in the State of Assam; and